

The Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

I am a single mother. I pay a universal service charge in my local phone bill and another, higher, universal service charge for the long distance carrier. Over the course of a year, I typically make fewer than one long distance call a month and often go four or five months without making a single long distance call.

While I want to offer congratulations on your appointment to Chair the FCC, I urge you, as a part of your new leadership role, to support the "Fair Share Plan" as a solution to current concerns with the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Fair Share Plan will keep the USF fair, ensuring that consumers like me do not pay the same rate into the USF as big businesses, regardless of how little I may use long distance. The burden of cost should rest more heavily on those who use long distance services the most than on those who use long distance the least.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition submitted the Fair Share Plan to the FCC on January 31, 2005. It expands who pays into the USF so that other technologies - not just phones - pay into the system. The Fair Share Plan collects the USF using a combination numbers- and revenue-based plan. This keeps the system fair, equitable and non-discriminatory.

Under the flat fee or numbers-based plan you now are considering, people like me who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many, many calls. I believe it would be very, very unfair to charge low-volume and residential customers the same fees as high-volume residential or business customers.

I urge you to keep the USF fair, and adopt the Fair Share Plan. Thank you, and best of luck in your new position.

cc: Marlene Dortch, Secretary

Sincerely,

Beth Alonso  
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